

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-23 (Canceled)

24. (New) A folding portable radio communication apparatus having an open state and a closed state, said folding portable radio communication apparatus comprising:

an upper housing and a lower housing; and

a hinge portion;

wherein said upper and lower housings are foldable through said hinge portion,

wherein at least one part of said upper housing is formed as a housing electrical conductor portion and is made of an electrically conductive material,

wherein said hinge portion comprises first and second hinge parts which engage with each other so as to be rotatably slid able,

wherein said first hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is electrically connected with said housing electrical conductor portion,

wherein said second hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is electrically connected with a feeding point of a radio communication circuit provided in said lower housing of said apparatus, and

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with said feeding point of said radio communication circuit through said first and second hinge parts in both of the open state and the closed state of said apparatus.

25. (New) A folding portable radio communication apparatus having an open state and a closed state, said folding portable radio communication apparatus comprising:

an upper housing and a lower housing; and

a hinge portion;

wherein said upper and lower housings are foldable through said hinge portion,

wherein at least one part of said upper housing is formed as a housing electrical

conductor portion and is made of an electrically conductive material,

wherein said hinge portion comprises first and second hinge parts which engage with each other so as to be rotatably slid able,

wherein said first hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is electrically connected with said housing electrical conductor portion,

wherein said second hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is electrically connected with a feeding point of a radio communication circuit provided in said lower housing of said apparatus,

wherein a capacitive coupling is conducted through an electrical insulator having a predetermined capacitance in at least one of a location between said housing electrical conductor portion and said first hinge part and a location between said second hinge part and said feeding point of said radio communication circuit, and

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with said feeding point of the radio communication circuit through said first and second hinge parts in both of the open state and the closed state of said apparatus.

26. (New) A folding portable radio communication apparatus having an open state and a closed state, said folding portable radio communication apparatus comprising:

an upper housing and a lower housing; and

a hinge portion;

wherein said upper and lower housings are rotatable through said hinge portion,

wherein at least one part of said upper housing is formed as a housing electrical

conductor portion and is made of an electrically conductive material,

wherein said hinge portion comprises first and second hinge parts which engage with

each other so as to be rotatably slid able,

wherein said first hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is

electrically connected with said housing electrical conductor portion,

wherein said second hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is

electrically connected with a feeding point of a radio communication circuit provided in said

lower housing of said apparatus, and

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with said feeding point of said radio communication circuit through said first and second hinge parts in both of the open state and the closed state of said apparatus.

27. (New) A folding portable radio communication apparatus having an open state and a closed state, said folding portable radio communication apparatus comprising:

an upper housing and a lower housing; and

a hinge portion;

wherein said upper and lower housings are rotatable through said hinge portion,

wherein at least one part of said upper housing is formed as a housing electrical

conductor portion and is made of an electrically conductive material,

wherein said hinge portion comprises first and second hinge parts which engage with each other so as to be rotatably slidable,

wherein said first hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is electrically connected with said housing electrical conductor portion,

wherein said second hinge part is made of an electrically conductive material and is electrically connected with a feeding point of a radio communication circuit provided in said lower housing of said apparatus,

wherein a capacitive coupling is conducted through an electrical insulator having a predetermined capacitance in at least one of a location between said housing electrical conductor portion and said first hinge part and a location between said second hinge part and said feeding point of said radio communication circuit, and

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with said feeding point of said radio communication circuit through said first and second hinge parts in both of the open state and the closed state of said apparatus.

28. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 24,

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with a reactance element through said second hinge part.

29. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25,

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with a reactance element through said second hinge part.

30. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26,

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with a reactance element through said second hinge part.

31. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27,

wherein said housing electrical conductor portion is electrically coupled with a reactance element through said second hinge part.

32. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 24, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively; and

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements according to the open and closed states of said apparatus and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

33. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively; and

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements according to the open and closed states of said apparatus and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

34. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively; and

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements according to the open and closed states of said apparatus and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

35. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively; and

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements according to the open and closed states of said apparatus and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

36. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 24, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively;

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion; and

a controller for controlling said switching device,

wherein said controller compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by an antenna element which is constituted by said housing electrical conductor portion and said hinge portion, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with

said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and said hinge portion, said controller selects one of said reactance elements corresponding to such a case upon receiving or transmitting a radio signal having a maximum signal level, and said controller controls said switching device to connect said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

37. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively;

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion; and

a controller for controlling said switching device,

wherein said controller compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by an antenna element which is constituted by said housing electrical conductor portion and said hinge portion, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and said hinge portion, said controller selects one of said reactance elements corresponding to such a case upon receiving or transmitting a radio signal having a maximum signal level, and said controller controls said switching device to connect said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

38. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively;

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through the hinge portion; and

a controller for controlling said switching device,

wherein said controller compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by an antenna element which is constituted by said housing electrical conductor portion and said hinge portion, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and said hinge portion, said controller selects one of said reactance elements corresponding to such a case upon receiving or transmitting a radio signal having a maximum signal level, and said controller controls said switching device to connect said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

39. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, further comprising:

a plurality of reactance elements having a plurality of reactance values different from each other, respectively;

a switching device for selecting one of said plurality of reactance elements and for connecting said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion; and

a controller for controlling said switching device,

wherein said controller compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by an antenna element which is constituted by the housing electrical conductor portion and said hinge portion, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and the hinge portion, said controller selects one of said reactance elements corresponding to such a case upon receiving or transmitting a radio signal having a maximum signal level, and said controller controls said switching device to connect said selected reactance element with said housing electrical conductor portion through said hinge portion.

40. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 36,

wherein said controller further compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by said antenna element, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and said hinge portion according to a plurality of operational frequency bands of said apparatus.

41. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 37,

wherein said controller further compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by said antenna element, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and said hinge portion according to a plurality of operational frequency bands of said apparatus.

42. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 38,

wherein said controller further compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by said antenna element, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and said hinge portion according to a plurality of operational frequency bands of said apparatus.

43. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 39,

wherein said controller further compares signal levels of a plurality of radio signals received by said antenna element, respectively, when each of said plurality of reactance elements is connected with said housing electrical conductor portion through said switching device and said hinge portion according to a plurality of operational frequency bands of said apparatus.

44. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 24, further comprising one of a thin-film-shaped electrically insulating sheet and a coating member, which is made of one of a dielectric material and a magnetic material, and which is formed on said upper housing having said housing electrical conductor portion.

45. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, further comprising one of a thin-film-shaped electrically insulating sheet and a coating member, which is made of one of a dielectric material and a magnetic material, and which is formed on said upper housing having said housing electrical conductor portion.

46. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, further comprising one of a thin-film-shaped electrically insulating sheet and a coating member, which is made of one of a dielectric

material and a magnetic material, and which is formed on said upper housing having said housing electrical conductor portion.

47. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, further comprising one of a thin-film-shaped electrically insulating sheet and a coating member, which is made of one of a dielectric material and a magnetic material, and which is formed on said upper housing having said housing electrical conductor portion.

48. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 24, further comprising a display portion of said apparatus which is provided at an inner side of said upper housing.

49. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, further comprising a display portion of said apparatus which is provided at an inner side of said upper housing.

50. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, further comprising a display portion of said apparatus which is provided at an inner side of said upper housing.

51. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, further comprising a display portion of said apparatus which is provided at an inner side of said upper housing.

52. (**New**) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, further comprising a display portion of said apparatus which is provided at an inner side of said upper housing.